



Summary of Natural Hazard Statistics for 2005 in the United States



This National Weather Service (NWS) report summarizes fatalities, injuries and damages caused by severe weather in 2005. The NWS Office of Climate, Water and Weather Services and the National Climatic Data Center compiled this *Summary of U.S. Natural Hazard Statistics* from Storm Data, a report comprising statistics from NWS forecast offices in the 50 states, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands.

Summary of 2005 Weather Events, Fatalities, Injuries, and Damage Costs

LAST UPDATED : 3/15/2007

<u>Weather Event</u>	<u>Fatalities</u>	<u>Injuries</u>	<u>Amount of Property Damage (M)</u>	<u>Amount of Crop Damage (M)</u>	<u>Total Prop/Crop Damage (M)</u>
<u>Convection</u>					
Lightning	38	309	\$ 52.4	\$ 0.4	\$ 52.8
Tornado	38	537	421.8	82.1	503.9
Tstm Wind	16	185	398.7	11.9	410.6
Hail	1	8	480.5	56.1	536.6
<u>Extreme Temperatures</u>					
Cold	24	1	0.1	139.2	139.3
Heat	158	298	3.0	0.0	3.0
<u>Flood</u>					
Flash Flood	28	22	293.2	35.3	328.5
River Flood	15	16	1,244.5	68.9	1,313.4
Small Stream/Urban Flood	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<u>Marine</u>					
Coastal Storm	6	12	2.2	0.0	2.2
Tsunami	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Rip Current	35	9	0.0	0.0	0.0
<u>Tropical Cyclones</u>					
Tropical Storm/Hurricane	1016	130	93,064.4	2,075.2	95,139.6
<u>Winter</u>					
Winter Storm	34	72	293.8	0.1	293.9
Ice	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Avalanche	11	16	0.2	0.0	0.2
<u>Other</u>					
Drought	0	0	77.4	1,311.1	1,388.5
Dust Storm	0	32	0.1	0.0	0.1
Dust Devil	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Rain	8	39	264.2	228.6	492.8
Fog	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
High Wind	7	43	58.5	21.9	80.4
Waterspout	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Fire Weather	0	0	40.7	0.0	40.7
Mud Slide	11	11	91.5	0.0	91.5
Volcanic Ash	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Miscellaneous	5	94	1.6	0.2	1.8
TOTALS	1451	1834	\$96,788.8M	\$4,031.0M	\$100,819.8M

Summary of 2005 Natural Hazard Statistics

Largely as a result of Hurricane Katrina and a record number of other tropical cyclones, in 2005, there were 1,451 weather-related fatalities, almost four times the 369 fatalities in 2004. The 2005 fatality number is well above the 10-year average (1996-2005) of 117 and dramatically above the 30 year average of 49.

In addition to hurricanes, extremely high temperatures throughout many parts of the nation in the summer of 2005 made heat the next biggest weather killer, with 158 fatalities, up from just 6 deaths in 2004. Following far behind in casualties were flooding, with 43 deaths, and rip currents with 35 victims.

Despite the enormous loss of life, weather-related injuries dropped in 2005 to 1,834 from 2,428 in 2004. Tornadoes surpassed hurricanes as the major source of injuries in 2005 with 537. Lightning was responsible for another 309 injuries, followed by thunderstorms and high winds with 228 and hurricanes with 130.

Of the 1,451 weather-related fatalities, males accounted for 818 and females, 620. In most years, more than twice as many males are killed by extreme weather as females. Females were more likely to be victims only in lowest age group, 0-9 years old, and the highest age brackets: those more than 70 years of age. In all other age ranges, there were more male than female deaths.

August was by far the deadliest month with 1,035 fatalities, most of which were from Hurricane Katrina. As to be expected, in 2005, Louisiana was hardest hit by weather, losing 820 citizens, almost all from Katrina. Mississippi lost 181 residents to hurricanes. July was the next most deadly month with 116 victims, most succumbing to extreme heat. Texas numbered 67 victims, most from heat, which also claimed 51 of 59 lives lost to weather in Arizona and 26 of 35 weather victims in Pennsylvania.

Severe weather caused \$96.8 billion in property damages in 2005, up from \$25.3 billion in 2004. As in 2004, hurricanes were the most damaging weather with an estimated \$93 billion in claims from Katrina and the record number of other tropical cyclones. Flooding came in an extremely distant second in the damages category with \$1.5 billion in losses.

Crop damages for 2005 totaled \$4.03 billion. Not surprisingly, hurricanes were responsible for the bulk of those losses with damages estimated at \$2.1 billion. Drought destroyed \$1.3 billion in crops. Louisiana took the dubious honor of highest weather related property and crop damages, totaling \$52.8 billion in losses.

2005 Summary of all Natural Hazards

2005 SUMMARY OF FATALITIES FOR ALL HAZARDS BY AGE AND GENDER

	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>UNKNOWN</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>PERCENT</u>
0 TO 9	12	9	0	21	1
10 TO 19	19	32	0	51	4
20 TO 29	14	44	0	58	4
30 TO 39	18	47	2	67	5
40 TO 49	39	101	0	140	10
50 TO 59	66	136	0	202	14
60 TO 69	78	143	0	221	15
70 TO 79	137	127	0	264	18
80 TO 89	158	117	0	275	19
90 TO --	63	33	0	96	7
UNKNOWN	16	29	11	56	4
TOTAL	620	818	13	1451	100*
PERCENT	43	56	1	100	

(* Due to rounding total does not equal 100%)

2005 MONTHLY WEATHER RELATED FATALITIES

